

Senegal wants OAU summit

PARIS (R) — Senegal's President Abdou Diouf said on Monday that he wanted an emergency summit of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) to try to save it from disintegration following the admission of the Polisario guerrilla front. Senegal was one of 19 delegations to boycott an OAU meeting in Addis Ababa last February, when the Polisario's self-proclaimed Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) was admitted. President Diouf, on a stopover in Paris on his way to Oman, said: "A summit would be a rare chance to save the OAU from breaking up." The Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas are fighting Morocco for control of the Western Sahara, a former Spanish colony.

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Arab-Americans to meet April 29

Hussein visits former premier in hospital

AMMAN (Petra) — The National Association of Arab-Americans (NAAA) has decided to hold its annual meeting between April 29 and May 2. The meeting will be held under the slogan: "The Search for Peace, and the U.S. Middle East Policy after Camp David." Quoting a statement issued in Washington by NAAA, Al Quds newspaper said the participants in the meeting will include former U.S. officials who have direct experience in Middle East affairs plus a number of Arab ambassadors. The statement stressed that the meeting will discuss future of Arab-U.S. relations after Israel's withdrawal from Sinai on April 25. U.S. President Reagan sent a message to NAAA in which he referred to Arab-Americans' achievements in medicine, industry, political leadership and sociology. He said that the NAAA is dedicated to the cause of peace and all concerned should continue efforts to establish a just and durable Middle East settlement. President Reagan added that the NAAA can play an effective role in the establishment of peace explaining that the peace process is full of inherent dangers and complications. He stressed that perseverance and goodwill can establish a new beginning for a just peace.

Kuwait asks WHO to examine Israeli

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait has asked the World Health Organisation (WHO) on behalf of Arab countries, to set up a neutral medical commission to examine an Israeli soldier who killed two, Arabs in Al Aqsa Mosque in occupied Jerusalem eight days ago. Health Minister Abdul Rahman Al Awadi said in a cable to WHO Director-General Halfdan Malling in Geneva he was making the request as chairman of the Arab Health Ministers' Conference. Israeli police said the attacker, Alan Goodman, a Jewish-American immigrant, who also wounded 30 people, was mentally disturbed. He was formally charged with murder and remanded in custody for 15 days last Tuesday. The cable said Israel's "claim has no supporting evidence which the world conscience can accept."

China's oil reserves bigger than S. Arabia, geologists claim

PEKING (R) — China's oil reserves could be much bigger than Saudi Arabia's at 30 to 60 billion tonnes (220 to 440 billion barrels), according to a new estimate by Chinese geologists. They say, however, that only a small fraction of these are verified, according to a recent report by the official New China News Agency. The figures would mean China is sitting on reserves up to three times bigger than the proven reserves of Saudi Arabia, but Western experts cautioned that there is no way of knowing how much oil China has until more drilling is done. One expert said the figures were at best intelligent guesswork. China's onshore oil production recently peaked at just over 100 million tonnes a year (two million barrels per day), and 35 foreign companies have bid for rights to exploit offshore oil reserves in the Yellow Sea off Shanghai, the Pearl River basin near Hong Kong and in the South China Sea near Vietnam.

Benjedid in Belgrade

BELGRADE (R) — Algerian President Chadli Benjedid arrived here Monday for three days of talks with Yugoslav leaders on major world issues, closer bilateral cooperation and the Non-Aligned Movement. A major topic will be the non-aligned summit to be held in Baghdad next September, and the conflicts between some member countries which stand in the way of the movement's strengthened unity, officials said. Yugoslavia, a founder member of the Non-Aligned Movement, wants to ensure success for the summit and prevent the movement from tilting towards any of the two big military blocs. Mr. Benjedid will have talks with President Serge Kraigher, Prime Minister Veselin Djurovic and the president of the ruling Communist Party, Dusan Dragosavac, the officials said.

Haig flies to talk with Reagan on new proposals for Falklands

BUENOS AIRES (R) — U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig flew to Washington Monday with a new proposal which the Argentine government said might avert a war between Argentina and Britain over the disputed Falkland (Malvinas) Islands.

A spokesman for Argentine military President Leopoldo Galtieri said the proposal contained a series of ideas to resolve the crisis which began on April 2 when Argentine troops took over the South Atlantic islands after 149

years of British rule.

Mr. Haig said he remained hopeful that the dispute could be resolved peacefully but repeated his earlier warning that time was running out in the attempt to prevent war between Britain and Argentina.

Mr. Haig said in a brief statement at Ezeiza Airport before leaving at 5 p.m. (2000 GMT): "I am more convinced than ever that war in the South Atlantic would be the greatest of tragedies and that time is indeed running out."

OIC peace mission arrives in Baghdad

BEIRUT (R) — An Islamic peace mission arrived in Baghdad from Tebran Monday and immediately began talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and his senior advisers, the official Iraqi News Agency INA said.

At the same time Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi left Baghdad after hearing Iraqi complaints against its Arab neighbour Syria, which is supporting Iran in the 19-month-old Gulf war.

The Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) mediation committee, headed by Guinean President Ahmad Sekou Toure and OIC Secretary-General Habib Chatti, met the president, Vice-President Taha Muhieddin Maarouf and eight members of Iraq's ruling Revolutionary

Command Council, INA said.

The nine-man OIC committee, which last visited the warring capitals in early March, heard that Iraq was prepared to settle its dispute with Iran peacefully, INA said.

Syria has closed its borders with Iraq and earlier this month it shut down vital pipelines carrying Iraqi crude oil across Syria to export terminals on the Mediterranean coast.

The Iraqis told Mr. Klibi that Syria's behaviour violated the charter of the Arab League and the principles of Arab solidarity, INA said.

On the Gulf war front Sunday night and Monday Iraqi troops killed 19 Iranians and destroyed one field gun for the loss of two men and one vehicle, INA said.

Irqi air force planes raided Iranian targets in the southern sector and returned safely to base, it added.

gue should act to prevent the deliberate damage Syria was doing to Iraq by its complicity with Iran, INA said.

Iran has said there will be no peace unless Iraqi forces withdraw from war-conquered Iranian territory.

In Tehran Monday, Iran's national news agency IRNA quoted President Sekou Toure as saying that although Iran had not accepted the mission's proposals for ending the Gulf war, the mission would continue its peace efforts.

Mr. Klibi, who was in Damascus on Sunday, also discussed the Gulf war during his one-day visit to Baghdad. Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz told him the Arab Lea-

Abuhatzeira found guilty of fraud charges

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Welfare Minister Aharon Abuhatzeira was convicted Monday of fraud, breach of trust and larceny, charges carrying maximum jail terms of seven years.

Members of Israel's ruling coalition and the opposition immediately called on him to resign.

But government sources discounted suggestions that if he resigned, his three-man Tami party

would leave the coalition, depriving the government of its nominal one-vote majority in the 120-member Knesset (parliament).

Mr. Abuhatzeira was found guilty of deliberately deceiving the city council in his home town of Ramle, while he was mayor. The charges concerned his handling of a welfare fund there.

The minister, who holds the portfolios of labour, welfare and immigrant absorption, was aqui-

tted last May at a previous trial for bribe taking.

His sentence will be handed down on Wednesday.

Hundreds of angry supporters demonstrated outside the court, already packed with Mr. Abuhatzeira's relatives, as the conviction was announced. A large police force was on hand to prevent disturbances.

Political feud threatens shaky Italian coalition

ROME (R) — A fierce row between the Socialist and Christian Democratic parties has threatened to bring down Italy's five-party coalition government.

The row, over an alleged slur against the Socialist by Christian Democratic Treasury Minister Beniamino Andreata, paralysed the administration, already struggling to control a looming economic crisis.

Prime Minister Giovanni Spadolini announced he was forced to put off a cabinet meeting Monday after Socialist ministers refused to attend and left open the possibility of a complete withdrawal from the 10-month-old coalition.

Socialist Party officials Sunday demanded Mr. Andreata's resignation after he allegedly told a party meeting that votes for the socialists could be paving the way for a new fascist era.

"Every vote that the Socialist Party wrests from us risks bringing Italy to national socialism," newspapers Monday reported Mr. Andreata as saying.

Mr. Andreata officially denied making the remark and Christian Democratic Party leaders pledged him full support.

But Finance Minister Salvatore Formica, the senior Socialist in the coalition, announced his party was boycotting the cabinet in protest.

For the future, Socialist ministers would "wait for decisions to be taken by the party organs in the light of the evolving political situation," he said.

Government sources said the statement was a clear threat that the Socialists, deeply dissatisfied with their junior role in the coalition, could bring down Mr. Spadolini and force early elections.

The two sides "note that their views on many important issues were convergent," the agency said without elaborating.

PLO to defend its rights in U.S. court, challenges slanders

American Zionist organisations challenge Pulitzer-winning journalist's bequest to PLO

By Ramzi Al Waleed
Special to the Jordan Times

NEW YORK — He was a journalist who won the Pulitzer Prize in 1951 and who had accompanied Admiral Byrd on a voyage to the North Pole. When he died Feb. 18, 1981, he was 65 years of age and had decided to will 10% of his estate to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Frank Sparks may have never imagined that Zionist organisations in the United States would challenge his will, particularly when he was no longer there to defend it. But they are, and the case might develop into an unprecedented case in the history of American courts.

This will be the first time ever that a PLO representative would appear before an American court.

Indeed, it was the PLO's decision to become involved in the case, not for the sake of the \$30,000 left for the PLO by Mr. Sparks, but because the PLO "is interested in defending its right to receive the bequest," says PLO's lawyer Robert Thabit, adding, "as well as in challenging the slanders of the PLO." The two sides' credentials have been accepted by the United Nations and the United States since the U.S. approved his credentials.

whether the bequest violates public policy.

"We were notified," says Mr. Thabit, "that the court has decided not to permit the bequest, and we challenged the two grounds: One, that the PLO is entitled to the bequest, regardless of its status and even though it may be an unincorporated association; and that the legitimate test for a bequest to be legal should be as to whether the beneficiary is clearly and unmistakably identifiable, and whether there is a duly qualified and authorised representative of the benevolent PLO." Zehid Terzzi's credentials have been accepted by the United Nations and the United States since the U.S. approved his credentials.

(Continued on page 3)

Ali confident of ties with Israel

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's differences with Israel over the latter's final withdrawal from Sinai will be settled this week, Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali said on Monday. He told reporters on his return from a brief visit to Israel: "The next few days will witness the settlement of all the outstanding issues (with Israel)." He declined to elaborate. (In Israel, a cabinet spokesman told reporters Israel believed a solution to all outstanding problems would be reached by Sunday and possibly before the special Israeli cabinet meeting scheduled for Wednesday). The two countries are divided over the exact position of the new border at 15 points. Mr. Ali, who is carrying a letter from Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin to President Hosni Mubarak, described his talks with Mr. Begin as friendly and constructive.

Arar to preside over new 75-member NCC

Obeidat becomes interior minister, Gen. Aladdin head of intelligence

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has appointed a new 75-member National Consultative Council (NCC) to be headed by Suleiman Arar, who resigned as minister of interior.

The royal decree, issued Monday, also named Lt.-Gen. Ahmad Obeidat, as the new minister of interior and Maj.-Gen. Tareq Aladdin as the new director of General Intelligence, which was headed by Gen. Obeidat.

Ahmad Al Tarawneh, the outgoing NCC speaker, has been appointed a member of the Upper House of Parliament, the royal decree said.

Following are the names of the 75 members of the new council:

(1) Abdul Wahab Al Majali (2)

Omar Al Nabulsi (11) Omar Abdulla (12) Anis Al Mu'ashir (13) Marwan Al Hammud (14) Dr. Mohammad Abdou Al Zaben (15) Sa'd Bino (16) Saleiman Arar (17) Abdul Ra'uf Al Rawabi (18) Ali Suheiman (19) Taha Hikmat (20) Dr. Jamal Al Sh'a'ir (21) Awad Al Masri (22) Salman Al Qudai (23) Atallah Al Kabariti (24) Khalid Al Fayyad (25) Saleiman Iraini (26) Salim Ibn Najad (27) Mohammad Ali Bedir (28) Amin Shukar (29) Dr. Carlos Dh'irmes (30) Mrs. Laila Sharaf (31) Sultan Majid Al 'Udwani (32) Abdollah Akhursiadeh (33) Hammud Ali Al Ma'ayeh (34) Jawad Al Shouf (35) Khalaf Abu Nweid (36) Khalid Abdul Nabi (37) Dr. Ishaq Maraqeh (38) Mamdouh Abu Hassan (39) Miftah Al Lawzi (40) Mohammad Ibrahim Al 'Azzeh (41) Abdul Rahim Jarar (42) Izzudin Al Kheib Al Tamimi (43) Faris Al Sarayreh (44) Dr. Hassan Al Ghayrabeh (45) Nizar Jardaneh (46) Layth Shbeat (47) Dr. Mohammad Sa'id Darwish (48) Milijun

Hadithib Al Khraisheh (49) Dr. Bani Hijazi (50) Hamdi Al Habashneh (51) Nimir Al Zamari (52) Ibrahim Al Mataleq (53) Abdul Halim Samarah (54) Dr. Yehya Khreis (55) Mahamat Al Kayed (56) Mrs. Hayfa Malaib Bashir (57) Ehsan Al Tal (58) Abdul Kader Al 'Uzari (59) Sa'd Hayel Al Srur (60) Muqbil Al Momani (61) Id Al 'Alay (62) Ali Abdul Rahim Khasman (63) Dr. Faisal Kan'an (64) Mohammad Ramadhan Faris (65) Abdul Jaber Tayeb (66) Hani Abu Hileh (67) Abdul Salam Issa Qasem (68) Mrs. Samia Nadim Al Zara (69) Issa Al 'Abd Al Rimoni (70) Mrs. Eideh Al Mutlaq (71) Dr. Mamoud 'Abbad (72) Sami Al Farah (73) Ali Abu Rashed (74) Falah 'Awad Al Mkhaimer (75) Hisham Al Sharari.

Li.-Gen. Ahmad Obeidat

Basque separatists step up violence

SAN SEBASTIAN (Agencies) — Suspected Basque separatist guerrillas lobbed three hand grenades into Civil Guard barracks and then sprayed it with gunfire near late Sunday night, police said Monday.

A man in a house opposite the barracks at Eibar was wounded in the leg by a stray bullet.

The attack was the seventh since Wednesday in an upsurge of political violence which police blame on the Basque separatist

organisation ETA.

One policeman has been killed and more than a dozen people wounded in the space of shootings and bombings in which the guerrillas have used anti-tank weapons, machine guns and plastic explosives.

Early Sunday, guerrillas thought to belong to ETA blew up Madrid's major telephone exchange, causing a massive communications problem ahead of the World Cup soccer competition

which begins in Spain in June. Spanish National Radio said Basque separatists were responsible.

Police said one person was injured in the blast, which did extensive damage to the facility, but the victim's condition was not known.

In addition to its telephone services, the exchange leased lines to the Spanish news agency EFE, the Associated Press and other international news agencies, of which were cut off by the blast.

Vienna blasts damage French embassy, Air France offices

VIENNA (R) — Explosions early Monday damaged the French embassy and the offices here of the French airline Air France, and police said they were investigating reports about two men seen in the area.

No one has claimed responsibility for the attacks and the motive was unknown. But police said embassy staff had earlier seen several anonymous threatening phone calls.

One was burst in either attack but the front of the Air France building in Vienna's elegant Kaerntnerstrasse shopping centre was badly damaged by the blast there just after midnight.

Almost immediately afterwards, an explosive device went off in the garden of the French embassy, a few hundred metres away, bursting a water pipe and damaging windows.

Police said the two men seen near the building were described by witnesses as about 30 years old and "of southern appearance."

Asked if international guerrilla leader "Carlos", who has threatened to attack French interests, might be involved, a police spokesman said there was no reason at present to think so but nothing could be excluded.

Carlos was identified as the leader of a guerrilla attack here in December 1975 on the headquarters of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in which 11 OPEC ministers were taken hostage.

9 killed in Indonesian stampede

JAKARTA (R) — Nine people have been killed and 122 injured in a stampede of an election rally organised by the opposition Muslim PPP party, the Antara national news agency said Monday.

The victims were trampled by crowds rushing to leave the estimated 100,000-strong gathering in a stadium at the south Kalimantan capital of Banjarmasin on Sunday, the agency said.

The government said it became public last week when President Goukouni's Frolinat, one of the provisional government's 10 rival armed factions, accused Vice-President Abdulkader Kamougue of wanting to negotiate with the rebels.

Last Friday four people were killed and 78 injured at a PPP election rally stampede in Surabaya, the capital of East Java.

NATIONAL

Political circumstances which led to the emergence of the National Consultative Council still exist. Jordan believes the council cannot be a substitute for elected parliament, but wants it to work. **Samira Kawar** reports.

The NCC has a role to play — what is it?

PRIOR to the announcement Monday evening of the formation of the third National Consultative Council (NCC), the Jordan Times interviewed the council's former president, Mr. Ahmad Al Tarawneh, and two other leading members, Messrs Taher Hikmat and Amin Shuaqir, on the role of the NCC and their hopes on its future development.

Mr. Taher Hikmat: a distinguished Jordanian lawyer, a former minister of culture and youth and an NCC member since the council's establishment, explained to the Jordan Times the circumstances which led to the suspension of the Jordanian lower house of parliament in 1974 and the establishment of the NCC in 1978.

Mr. Hikmat said the occupation of the West Bank by Israel in 1967 had made it impossible to hold general parliamentary elections which would include representatives of West Bank inhabitants. The alternative of appointing West Bank representatives to parliament would have been constitutionally incorrect, because the Jordanian constitution specifies that all members of the Jordanian parliament should be elected representatives, he said. Furthermore, it would have been impossible to have a fully "harmonious" parliament by introducing a new parliamentary formula which would have included appointed West Bank representatives and elected East Bank representatives. Mr. Hikmat said, "since such a situation would have created an imbalance in the parliamentary body."

Rabat summit

In analysing the circumstances that led to the suspension of parliamentary elections in Jordan, Mr. Hikmat referred to the resolutions of the Arab summit conference in 1974 in which the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was declared the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The PLO, he said, was very anxious not to have Palestinians become involved in any Arab political body, such as the Jordanian parliament, which would represent the West Bank, and insisted that Jordan does not play "any Palestinian role". The revival of the old political framework of a Jordanian parliament representing both the East and West Banks was not welcomed by the PLO at large, he said. Mr. Hikmat said he agreed that the PLO "was right about some aspects" concerning this issue, since the identity of the Palestinians should be determined through Palestinian political bodies rather than through Arab political bodies.

Delicate issues

The return under present cir-

cumstances to parliamentary elections in Jordan was a "very delicate and complicated issue". Mr. Hikmat pointed out. Due to the large number of West Bank citizens resident in the East Bank, the controversial issues of "who represents whom?" and "who will vote for whom?" will immediately crop up if general elections are to be held under the present circumstances, he explained. He described such a step as "premature" and "dangerous" to the national cause and the Palestinian issue if it preceded a solution to the problem of Israeli occupation of the West Bank. "Real fears existed that if Palestinians in Jordan were to vote in parliamentary elections, this could be considered as a first step towards their permanent settlement in Jordan."

This situation had led to the suspension of parliament and created the need for a new formula to embody political life in Jordan. Mr. Hikmat said, "The government could not continue to control both legislative and executive powers, and after 'heated discussions', the present NCC formula emerged, he added.

Former Council President Tarawneh, also explained some of the circumstances which led to the formation of the NCC. "The government had become overburdened with the responsibility of both the legislative and the executive powers of the state, so the NCC was formed to carry out several functions," he said. "These included giving advice and evaluations on draft laws put before the NCC by the government."

Mr. Tarawneh pointed out that "no law could be officially enacted unless it was first submitted to the NCC for discussion." The NCC is also empowered to express an opinion on any legal amendment, cancellation or draft law; and to give the government recommendations to be included in draft laws. Another function carried out by the NCC is discussion of internal and foreign government policy and expressing opinions on public services and facilities.

Consultative role

Mr. Hikmat sees the Jordanian NCC as "the first of its kind" in the Arab World. Although similar bodies exist in some Gulf countries, the idea was copied from Jordan, he said. "In other Arab countries with totalitarian regimes, similar councils with elected rather than appointed members

existed. But in the final analysis, these elected bodies were actually appointed because only candidates who received the approval of the single governing party in that country were allowed to run in the first place," he said.

The NCC has no constitutional powers, and its decisions and resolutions are not binding on the government. Mr. Hikmat explained that this is so because the NCC was declared by an ordinary law, not by the constitution. "Hence, making NCC resolutions binding on the government would be unconstitutional," he said.

Mr. Tarawneh seconded this analysis and stressed that the NCC's functions was merely "consultative". However, he pointed out, "by putting the public good before all other considerations and by virtue of the experienced advice given by its members, the NCC had turned into an overseer and censor" of government policy.

Mr. Tarawneh nevertheless stressed that the NCC was not a substitute for an elected parliament and hoped for the disappearance of the present obstacles to parliamentary elections.

Evaluating the role of the NCC, Mr. Hikmat said that although the NCC has no constitutional powers, and is not allowed a vote of no confidence against the government, it is a "progressive step" towards developing democratic life in Jordan. "In spite of its limited powers, the NCC provides an avenue that will most probably lead to the natural and gradual maturing of democracy through the actual practices of members inside the NCC", he said.

Patterns of democracy

Elaborating on democracy, Mr. Hikmat expressed the belief that "there is no final universal pattern or model of democracy which should be adopted by everyone alike throughout the world." Each country develops its own suitable pattern of democracy. Full democracy in the Western sense requires a minimal degree of consensus within a society.

"In a semi-tribal, developing country like Jordan, where feudal remnants still exist, and in view of the lack of Western-style political institutions and adequate training,

Western-style democracy might not be the best alternative and the only one at present," he added.

The vacuum created by the absence of an elected parliament in Jordan had been largely compensated for, particularly as far as legislation was concerned, by the role played by the NCC, Mr. Hikmat said. He stressed that the most important element in the development of democratic political life in any country was the actual political will to achieve democracy. "Once such a will existed, the framework would not be important". Any suitable framework can be developed according to the needs of the country concerned, and Mr. Hikmat believes that for Jordan, the NCC can be the framework within which full-fledged

political democracy will eventually be born. He also believes that the NCC is actually an improvement on Jordan's dissolved parliament because it is "more effective".

Shuaqir disagrees

Another leading NCC member, Mr. Amin Shuaqir, does not agree that the NCC could ever replace a democratically elected parliament because of the constitutional constraints which bind it. Nor does he believe that the NCC, in its present form, can lead to the emergence of political democracy in Jordan.

Mr. Shuaqir believes that free political life is the only realistic expression of democracy. "Conceding only some democracy in the hope that it will substitute for full democracy reveals serious national inadequacy, because it annuls the role and capabilities of the majority of the people in contributing to national issues," he said. Such was the importance of "free and full-fledged" political life that even elections would prove ineffective in the absence of such political freedom, he added.

"There is no substitute for an uncontrived, genuine and responsible political life, which slowly and painfully matures." A very controversial issue, Mr. Shuaqir said, was whether political life ought to always be a reflection of "absolute right" or an expression of the realities of the

came into being, not one of its major and important resolutions has been rejected by the government. Prime Minister Mudar Badran has always been "very cooperative" with the NCC's Foreign Affairs Committee and was always willing to discuss foreign policy at the request of the committee, Mr. Hikmat said.

"The prime minister had reviewed government foreign policy several times during ordinary sessions. Nevertheless, the NCC's experience had been limited to dealing with only one prime minister, namely Mr. Mudar Badran, with the exception of a few months when the late Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf was prime minister," he said. "The NCC had been lucky in this respect because Mr. Badran was especially understanding towards the role of the NCC. His government had not rejected any major NCC resolution because this would have amounted to a rejection of public opinion," Mr. Hikmat added. "But governments change and there was no guarantee that all prime ministers would be understanding."

Mr. Hikmat suggested that the NCC could serve as a suitable temporary alternative to an elected parliament, "if a constitutional amendment were made, extending the NCC's powers and making, at least, its decisions binding on the government."

People's aspirations

Mr. Shuaqir believes that the

osphere and procedures of the NCC's consultative functions. Once this "adjustment period" was over, he said, the second NCC assumed a "very vigorous" role.

Mr. Shuaqir disagreed with this analysis. The first NCC had been "rather unsure of anything, particularly of what it could do under the circumstances prevailing in the country and the events that had led to the NCC's establishment," he said. Not a single member had imagined it would be possible to block a proposed draft law of any sort, he added. However, following a period of experience, NCC members realised towards the end of the first NCC's term and during the beginning of the second council that any member could freely raise and tackle any problem, "even major issues," Mr. Shuaqir said. "The second NCC therefore benefited from the experience of the first NCC."

Mr. Shuaqir believes that "new elements" with "more youth and a greater desire to carry responsibility" were appointed to the second NCC. The second NCC took a measure of responsibility in legislative matters and issues of national policy which were not reached by the first NCC, he said.

"Hence, I am optimistic that, as long as current circumstances preventing the holding of parliamentary elections continued, care would be taken to continue to enrich the NCC with new elements enjoying political and legislative experience."

Representativeness

Although NCC members are appointed rather than elected by the people, Mr. Hikmat does not feel that they do not represent the people. "The problem of representativeness does not arise between us and the people at all, because we live amongst them and know their everyday problems," he said. "It is before the government that we are made to feel that we are not truly representative of the people because the government unconsciously treats us as non-representative."

Explaining the criteria according to which appointment to the NCC takes place, Mr. Hikmat said "expressive abilities" of members rather than "representative considerations" had governed the decision to appoint members during the initial period of the NCC. "Later, a combination of these criteria became the standard" according to which appointment to the NCC was decided. "This may not be the most exemplary formula but it is nevertheless experimental and subject to development," he went on to say. "At present the personal and political backgrounds of prospective members and their previous contributions to public life were the main considerations governing the appointment of members. Representativeness was also taken into account on the basis of geographical and sectoral distribution of the population," he said.

Mr. Tarawneh expressed the opinion that "since the NCC has a consultative function, the first consideration according to which the appointment of members should take place is their competence, experience, expertise and ability to serve the country." If these qualities coincide with representativeness of all sectors of the people then all the better, since it is preferable that members should represent all professional and geographical distributions among the people," he said.

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Groupings among members

Mr. Hikmat referred to "a very important recent development" within the NCC: the appearance of groupings among certain members since the middle of 1981. This development came about after "certain tendencies and attitudes regarding several issues crystallised" and several members began to share a minimal degree of consensus on some political ideas," he explained. "Anyone studying the minutes of recent NCC sessions would detect the presence of two apparent groups formed by several NCC members."

Mr. Hikmat said "it was the-



Hikmat: It is theoretically possible that groupings of NCC members could be the nuclei for some form of political parties'.

political parties in the future." He cited classical political science theories, which hold that one of the natural settings for the establishment of political parties is within parliaments, public councils and forums. He described such a future development within the NCC as the "healthiest, most appropriate way of introducing political parties into Jordan." Elaborating on the subject of forming political parties, Mr. Hikmat said: "We hope to evolve an understanding of political life through our activities at the NCC. We hope that this will eventually enable us to form social democratic parties according to the Western models. We consider that "moderate, reformatory parties" along the lines of such social democratic parties in Western countries like West Germany and other West European countries are the "most suitable formula for our country, during the phase."

Both Mr. Tarawneh and Mr. Shuaqir disagreed with Mr. Hikmat's analysis. Mr. Tarawneh said "there are no groupings which necessitate commitment on the part of any members in the NCC to adopt a certain stand whatsoever. Each member is free to express his opinion as he or she sees fit." He emphasised that he had not noticed a stable pattern that indicated the emergence of groupings among some members in the NCC.

Temporary circumstances

Mr. Shuaqir said: "The so-called groupings" within the NCC had been spontaneously formed by limited and temporary circumstances. The fact that certain members had been thrown together within the NCC at a given time with a certain opportunity to interact had led to the adoption of similar stand on some limited technical issues." He expressed belief that such "similar stands" had not stemmed from the presence of a common philosophy or deep-seated political outlook, which usually lead people to adopt similar stands on basic issues. Furthermore, any tendencies which may have been taken as groupings within the NCC were by no means permanent and did not indicate the presence of organised groupings. Mr. Shuaqir pointed out. "In the wake of a long period of confusion, it is difficult to imagine that the process of establishing a political life could begin at the top," he said. "I am convinced that political life begins with the process of educating the public politically as a necessary prelude to the formation of political parties," he continued.

News blackout

Mr. Shuaqir pointed out that one of the "major problems" faced by the NCC as an entity (not by the members themselves) was a "media blackout" of some of the discussions. The press, he said, had concentrated on giving coverage to members, but not to many important discussions and ideas expressed by members during sessions. This was particularly true of discussions and ideas with

political implications, he said. The official media, both radio and television, accurately convey the speeches and reports given by the prime minister during sessions, he said. "This is very important, since it is necessary for the public to be informed of what the prime minister says before the NCC. But it is not the only thing that is important, and it is just as necessary to convey to the public reactions and opinions put forth by members on many issues."

It was true, Mr. Shuaqir said, that, sometimes, official media instruments convey what some members say; but at other instances the process of "deleting" was "infuriating." It is important, he added, that the public should form a clear impression of what goes on inside the NCC through listening to most of what is said, whether it refers to national or legislative issues, and whether it supports government policy or disagrees with it. He said that such extensive media coverage would serve to enhance the role of both the government and the media in public opinion. "It would also shed more light on the activities of the NCC and allow the public at large to form its own evaluation of an experiment as important as this (NCC)."

Another problem facing the NCC in Mr. Shuaqir's opinion is the fact that its constitution derives from that of the suspended lower house of parliament, which belongs to a period in time "which cannot be repeated or relived". Hence, Mr. Shuaqir sees the NCC's constitution at present as being anachronistic and outdated.

Part-time jobs

A problem which both Mr. Hikmat and Mr. Shuaqir feel members are faced with is the fact that they are not expected to completely devote their time and energies to their duties as members. Consequently, members have no offices, assistants, secretaries, typists and other supporting staff which would enable them to gather information independently. Mr. Tarawneh, however, doesn't feel that this presents a serious problem, or that it hinders the consultative role of NCC members. Members could obtain any necessary information through NCC senior staff, he said.

Evaluating a recent amendment to the NCC constitution, increasing the number of members from 60 to 75, Mr. Tarawneh said its purpose was to increase the level of qualified and expert representatives, particularly since a numerical increase in number of members would logically lead to "more correct" opinions.

Mr. Hikmat said he too believed increasing the number of members was aimed at increasing the activity of the NCC to achieve "greater balance" in representation. "Although no sectors were actually unrepresented in the NCC, reconsidering the ratio according to which each sector is represented was not uncalled for," he said. Mr. Shuaqir welcomed such a step and hoped that it would lead to the appearance of more "expertise, qualified members and new outlooks" within the NCC.

Foreign policy

As for the "effectiveness" of the NCC, Mr. Hikmat said: "The NCC had practised full powers in the legislative field regardless of what the government demanded" at the time. The NCC, he disclosed, had been successful in blocking two draft laws since the beginning of 1982. These were the land partitioning and the central corporation for public projects draft laws. Mr. Shuaqir mentioned a third, the municipalities draft law.

Mr. Hikmat agreed that the NCC had not to date played a significant role in forming the country's foreign policy. This, he said, was "unsatisfactory", but he predicted that "in the years to come, the NCC will share a certain effective role in shaping foreign policy." This would come about as "a natural development" in the role of any such body as the NCC, he predicted. Political groupings, Mr. Hikmat added, would begin to appear and crystallise inside the NCC and new "political forums" would result. "These groupings would subsequently feel the need of assuming a role in foreign policy and a kind of pressure from within the NCC, for such a situation would build up when the time was right."

Both Mr. Hikmat and Mr. Tarawneh stressed that since the NCC

Atmosphere is important

Comparing the first NCC (1978-1980) to the second, Mr. Hikmat said: "It is true that during the first 15 months the second council had been less 'vigorous' and effective than the first". He attributed this to the introduction of new members into the second NCC and to the time needed for their adjustment to the at-

JORDAN TIMES

Tarawneh: "Increasing number of council members logically leads to more correct opinions."

A Jordanian view of the *Taming of the Shrew*:

The play transformed initial boredom into real enjoyment

The following review of the Cambridge Theatre Company's performance of the *Taming of the Shrew* is written by Dr. Mu'eed Hawamdeh and Marwan Obaidat of the Yarmouk University Department of English:

The *Taming of the Shrew* is a minor comedy by Shakespeare, written and first acted in 1594. The main plot revolves around the process of taming a ravenous shrew, Katharina. During the course of action the protagonist has evolved from an ill-tempered, shrewish woman into an obedient and submissive wife. The minor plot includes the love intrigue of Katharina's younger and more agreeable sister, Bianca, and the story of a drunken tinker, Sly, who wakes from his drunkenness to believe that he was a noble lord. In his comedy, Shakespeare, like Chaucer, has immortalised the comic figure of the shrewish wife, and contributed to the debate of wife's duties and the interrelationship between man and woman, nowadays referred to as the battle of sexes.

The Cambridge Theatre Company's (CTC) recent production of the play on the stage of the Palace of Culture, Amman, was remarkably successful and strikingly interesting which make it worthy of attention.

Going into the theatre, one would at once realise that the director, Richard Cottrell, and his staff were after the recapitulation of the Shakespearean theatrical tradition and the Elizabethan social and aesthetic atmosphere. One could also notice that the stage of the Palace of Culture was refashioned after the Elizabethan "pub theatre." The last draws our attention not only to the Shakespearean atmosphere, but also to the simplicity of that theatre.

The recapitulation of the sixteenth century flavour was enhanced and reinforced by a well-chosen set of costumes and simple, typically Shakespearean set. The audience could observe the metal prints, wooden benches and seemingly dusty pub furniture and buildings. All these referred the play back to its historical context, definitely without harming its thematic universality.

The 20th century Jordanian audience who watched the play never failed to recognise the permeation of the Shakespearean spirit and ethos during the two performances of the play. The director was able to revive the past into the immediacy of the present. In fact he created a sense of temporal detachment between the play and its spectators. This, of course, could be meant to anaesthetise the expected antagonistic feelings of modern spectators, especially women, toward the injustice and humiliation done to women in the play. In other words, he was able to evade reiterations of the Savilian judgment that the play was "altogether disgusting to modern sensibility."

The affected spatial and temporal detachment is not a unique feature of the Amman performances. It is worth mentioning here that Shakespeare himself was aware of the antagonistic feelings his play would derive from the Elizabethan theatre-goers. Therefore he twice estranged the action, first, by setting it in the foreign Italy, and, second, by employing the play-within-the-play technique. These two layers of alienation could guarantee the fact that the 16th century spectators would not be aggravated by Petruchio's perverse and inhuman treatment of Katharina, the shrew. Likewise, from the spatially and temporally alienated Amman theatre-goers Petruchio's brutal treatment of Kate, like the latter's refractoriness and stubbornness derived only laughter and broad smiles. However, it could be said for this matter that the CTC's performance was not as well received as it would be by an English audience, probably due to a cultural barrier posed by foreign social and moral patterns of thought.

Taken as a whole, the performance was certainly a lucid and comic dramatisation of the *Taming of a Shrew*. It could in fact exert a subtle influence on the audience. The scattered laughter from time to time exhibited in a certain way the anticipated outcome of the comedy. The sense of boredom found in the introductory scenes was soon transformed into a real enjoyment as the play reveals itself further.

During the production Richard Cottrell used his cast in such a way that brought to mind all that is likable and "fresh" about Shakespeare, highlighting the thematic significance of the energies of the Shakespearean drama. One should definitely admire the way June Ritchie and Terence Wilton, to say no less of the other members of the cast, vividly, diligently and energetically acted, rather lived, their parts. Their genuine and convincing acting even enriched their roles and enhanced the plausibility of the play.

Prince Hassan expresses interest in promoting art

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan received at his office on Monday the representatives of the literate, cultural and artistic sectors in Jordan as well as several university professors in the presence of Culture and Youth Minister Ma'an Abu Nowar.

During the open meeting, they discussed the problems of the cultural, artistic and literary movement and its aspirations.

Prince Hassan expressed great interest in the ideas forwarded by those present. He expressed the hope that such meetings would be repeated in order to reach a studied formula capable of raising the standard of the writer and artist in Jordan and pushing the innovative march ahead in order to make Jordan's intellectual output reach every place.

Awqaf minister calls for saving Al Aqsa

AMMAN (Petra) — Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister Kamel Al Sharif presided a meeting on Monday morning, over the national committee for Muslim celebrations marking Prophet Mohammad's nocturnal journey from Mecca to Jerusalem and his ascension to Heaven.

Mr. Sharif told the meeting that the occasion this year coincides with delicate circumstances because of the blatant Zionist plots against Al Aqsa Mosque. He called for more organised work to avert the tragedies perpetrated by the Zionist extremists.

Mr. Sharif explained that the paramount duty for this year should be the "protection of Al Aqsa Mosque and rallying the Islamic World" for this purpose. Therefore, it has been decided to hold the third seminar on Islamic thought on the occasion, he said.

The first seminar was held under His Majesty King Hussein in 1978, and the second under His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan in 1980. Mr. Sharif said the third seminar will consider the establishment of an institute for Koran education, an international

exhibition on Jerusalem in the Islamic World, and a programme of Islamic heritage in Jerusalem. The seminar will also discuss Islamic values in the modern society, he said.

101 rural councils formed since 81

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hassan Al Momani has decided to establish 21 new village municipal councils: six in Amman Governorate, five in Balqa Governorate, four in Ma'an Governorate and Aqaba District, one in Jerash District and one in Tafleah District.

With the establishment of these new councils the number of municipal councils formed by the ministry in 1981 and 1982 will rise to 101. The establishment of these councils is part of the ministry's plan to increase the number of local councils which are expected to cooperate with government departments to provide citizens with general services

Arabs discuss cooperation in forming farmers association

AMMAN (Petra) — The meetings of the Arab agricultural cooperative seminar, organised by the Jordanian Cooperative Organisation, began in Amman on Monday. Delegates from Jordan, Djibouti, Sudan, Somalia, Iraq, Kuwait and Morocco are participating in the seminar. Cooperative Organisation Director General and Board Chairman Hassan Al Nabulsi opened the two-day seminar in a speech highlighting the difficult conditions our Arab Nation is currently passing through. He said this places us in the face of a two-fold challenge—to develop agriculture and to build and defend the Arab homeland.

Mr. Nabulsi called for str-

engthening cooperation in developing agriculture in a collective spirit, because agriculture is one of the pillars for building a strong Arab economy.

The head of the Sudanese delegation, Muhsin Najib Isma'il, also made a speech saying that the Arab farmers organisations' movement is a pioneering movement stemming from the very reality of the life of the people, because farmers constitute some 70 per cent of the Arab homeland's inhabitants.

The participants in the seminar elected Mr. Nabulsi as chairman of the seminar. The agenda includes discussion of strengthening relations between the regional cooperative organisations through the exchange of expertise, coordination in the field of agricultural development, and how to attract Arab capital to projects of agricultural production, food security, industrial security, rural industries, energy and water sources.

The participants will also discuss ways of opening the Arab markets for exchanging agricultural products and helping African countries form farmers associations to reinforce Arab-African solidarity.



Dr. Zaki Mazbudi, head of the Lebanese delegation addresses reporters at his press conference in Amman Monday.

Foreign Minister meets visiting Lebanese delegation

South Lebanon is a 'time bomb' threatening whole Arab World

AMMAN (Petra) — Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem received on Monday the information delegation for the support of southern Lebanon under Dr. Zaki Al Mazbudi, member of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies and former minister, who explained the tragedy of southern Lebanon and the dangers it poses to the Arab nation and its fateful issues, particularly the Palestinian issue.

Mr. Qasem said Jordan realises the dangers threatening southern Lebanon and is sympathetic with its inhabitants. He also explained Jordan's efforts in the Arab summits in calling for an inter-Libanese and then a Lebanese-Palestinian dialogue and reconciliation. Mr. Qasem emphasised the significance of diversifying the Arab deterrent forces in Lebanon so that they could

perform their duty in the best possible manner. He said Jordan is eager to assist southern Lebanon.

Mr. Qasem said the tragedy of southern Lebanon and its consequences inflict a grave damage on all the issues of the Arab nation, particularly the Palestinian issue. He added that Israel is exploiting the issue of southern Lebanon to continue its expansionist ambitions in the Arab homeland.

Mr. Mazbudi explained that the Israeli has historic ambitions in the water sources, territory and strategic location of southern Lebanon.

Mr. Mazbudi said the Arabs are duty-bound to support and assist the inhabitants of southern Lebanon so that they would not face alone in the battle. He said this support and assistance are necessary to check Israel's arrogance and conceit and its plans to launch a new aggression on southern Lebanon.

regards the situation in Lebanon and the Zionist menace posed to southern Lebanon. Mr. Mazbudi said the delegation's visit to Jordan is part of a tour to several Arab countries to explain the issue of southern Lebanon and the Zionist dangers threatening it at the request of the Arab League.

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In a press conference which Mr. Mazbudi and his delegation held in Amman on Monday, they praised His Majesty King Hussein's stands which are characterised by political chivalry, particularly as

U.S. Navy makes port call at Aqaba

AQABA (J.T.) — Two ships of the U.S. Navy's Middle East Force, the USS Jesse L. Brown and the USS Forrest Sherman, will pay a port call in Aqaba on April 20-22, 1982. Ships of this command regularly call at Aqaba as part of their routine port visits to friendly states in the region. The USS Jesse L. Brown is a guided-missile frigate of the Knox class; the USS Forrest Sherman is a destroyer of the Forrest Sherman class.

While in Aqaba, officers of the ships will pay calls on military and civilian officials. Ships will be open for public tours at 11:00-4:00 on April 20, and 1:00-4:00, April 21.

Education council head appointed

AMMAN (J.T.) — The cabinet has appointed Dr. Mohammad Nuri Shafiq as Secretary General of the Higher Education Council with the rank of minister, the local press reported on Monday.

Education council head appointed

AMMAN (J.T.)

—

Australian expertise to help wheat farmers in Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Marwan Doudin discussed on Monday with the Australian agricultural delegation currently visiting Jordan the possibility of cooperation between the two countries, particularly in the field of developing pastures.

An agreement in this connection was signed early this year, and several sites in Madaba, Al Rabbah and Irbid were chosen to conduct experiments in order to introduce the Australian methods of cultivation. The project will be implemented by experts from the agriculture ministry, the cooperative organisation and Australian experts.

On the other hand, the Australian delegation visited the University of Jordan Agriculture Faculty and heard a briefing from Dr. Marwan Doudin, the dean of the school.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

EEC gift arrives at Aqaba

AMMAN (Petra) — A shipment of milk powder weighing 150 tonnes arrived in Aqaba port as part of the contributions made by the countries of the European Economic Community (EEC) to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) to be used for helping Palestinian refugees.

ZARQA (Petra) — Industry and Trade Under Secretary Mohammad Saleh Al Horan discussed on Monday with Zarqa district officer Saleh Al Qudab the arrangements related to opening an office for the ministry at the government departments complex in Zarqa. Mr. Horan said the office, which will begin its work early next week, will undertake the registration of companies, import and export, and serving the commercial sector in Zarqa district.

Jordan Times reporters

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WHAT'S GOING ON

Exhibitions

- Saudi paintings, at the Palace of Culture, Al Hussein Sports City.
- Photographs by Bill Lyons, at the Alia Art Gallery from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4 to 7 p.m.
- Carnet de Voyages, colour photos by Emmanuel Jarry, opens at the French Cultural Centre at 6 p.m.

Video film

- CBS Evening News, at the American Centre at 12 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Choir singing

- At the YWCA at 8 p.m. All interested singers invited.

Film

- The Water Babies, at the British Council at 5 p.m.

Today's weather

The weather will be fair with a rise in temperature. Winds will be light and variable. In Aqaba wind will be northerly moderate with calm sea.

Overnight low Daytime high

Amman	14	26
Aqaba	18	34
Deserts	13	30
Jordan Valley	17	32

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 22, Aqaba 31. Humidity readings: Amman 36 per cent, Aqaba 19 per cent.

Jordan Times

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Scope to develop

THE NEW members of the National Consultative Council (NCC) being appointed this week have the luxury of studying the past four years' NCC experience and building upon it. There is general consensus among Jordanian political circles that while the NCC is not intended to, and cannot, replace an elected parliament, it has represented a good first step along the path of a return to normal parliamentary life.

We have always thought that the NCC, as an institution in a country that is still in the phase of establishing and developing its national institutions, still has great scope for development. The most significant role that the new NCC could play, in our opinion, is not only in the legislative field, but also in those areas of the executive branch of government that are not always manned to maximum efficiency by the civil service. Every person living in Jordan, Jordanian or not, has a series of favourite stories about dealings with government departments, the post office, the telephone system, the national airline, the water distribution network, the roads, health services, schools, or any one of the assorted ministries with whom the people of Jordan have to conduct every day business. We feel that the NCC, by its symbolic function as a transitional or contact zone between the citizenry and the government, could play an important and badly needed role as a watchdog for the right of all Jordanians and foreigners in the country to be treated fairly and efficiently by all government departments. The NCC could establish a special sub-committee with a permanent administrative staff to investigate cases of gross neglect, inefficiency or favouritism, including holding public hearings in which executives of public or semi-public institutions could be asked to testify. Such an open system of public accountability could only improve what is already one of the Arab World's best public sectors.

Grave indicators

AL RA'I: What is taking place between Egypt and Israel just one week before the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai is worthy of being followed up in detail by the Arabs. Arab states must be fully aware of the grave indicators confirming the rancorous aggressive nature of the Zionist entity and the abhorrent ideology which underlies it.

Israel is trying very hard to elicit a written document stressing anew Egypt's commitment to the Camp David agreement principles. This insistence shows the great anxiety

the Zionist leaders feel as regards the possibility of Egypt's returning to the Arab rank after the final withdrawal from Sinai. This possibility means that Israel will lose the greatest achievement it gained by the Camp David agreement.

The Israeli stand proves that what Israel understands with peace and what it is trying to peddle is not an agreement between equals. Israel's peace is a number of conditions dictated by the Zionist entity to paralyse Egypt's political and military capabilities. The reason behind is to keep the conflict in the region away until a time when Israel has completed imposing its hegemony

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

over all the people of the area.

The Zionist rancour has reached its peak in the acts of "organised sabotaged" carried out by the Israeli occupation authorities before the withdrawal. These acts of sabotage have not even spared trees.

What is taking place in Sinai is a lesson which all Arabs must comprehend.

Blackmail

AL DUSTOUR: The number of bargains Israel is trying to strike before withdrawing from

Sinai make one ask: Did Egypt accept this humiliation when it was dragged to sign the Camp David agreement? Israel signed the unilateral peace agreement only to isolate Egypt from the Arabs. The Israeli Knesset unanimously approved the final withdrawal from Sinai, and the oil fields, only because it is sure of having scored the big victory of isolating Egypt. Israel, which handcuffed President Mubarak with 43 marginal agreements besides the Camp David agreement, wants to squeeze and blackmail Egypt to the very last minute.

Israel is trying to tighten its grip on President Mubarak. It wants to blackmail him into

signing new concessions because Egypt is eager to retrieve its occupied land. What Israeli media said about oil and uranium discoveries in Sinai might be true or false; but Israel's expansionist nature is bound to create a crisis over drawing border lines with Egypt. Israel might be tempted to insist to keep a foothold in Sinai which could be used in the future as a springboard for its aggression.

Israel is making a big fuss about withdrawing from Yanit with an eye on the settlements in the West Bank. Egypt's leniency in dealing with this Israeli tempest will encourage Israel to proceed with its open attempt to blackmail Egypt.

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SPORTS

TENNIS TALK

Outsmart your opponent

By Maureen Stalla

IN TENNIS, as in everything else, looks can be deceiving. There may be a player with smooth strokes and every shot in the book. Watching him you feel he could play tennis to music. Yet he frequently loses because he lacks a main ingredient for winning—imagination.

If you find yourself losing a match, change your game. If you can't outstroke your opponent outsmart him. Everyday players are beaten by players whose game is inferior to theirs.

The answer is that you must prevent the player from playing his normal game. Break up his timing—throw him off. This is hard for you as well as him. But if you would rather win than lose, it is worth it.

If your opponent is formidable on the net, you must keep him off the net. There are several ways to do this. You can get to the net before he does. Or you can send up a lob. With a lob you can send him back and you can also amble up to the net while the ball is high in the air.

If he comes in on his serve, stand up close to receive. Up closer you can take the ball sooner and slam it to his feet, which forces a weak, high volley. If he waits to come in and out what his favorite approach shot is, and refuse to give him any.

Perhaps your opponent is steadier than you. He stands back and does nothing spectacular, but can hit two hundred forehands without a miss. You know you can't beat him with rally points. So force him. Take the net; or make him take it. Run him up and back. Break up his timing by alternating soft and hard balls. But first of all, press him. He relies on his timing so if you rush him he will start to miss.

If you have no backhand and your opponent is constantly slapping them there, you are in trouble. The best you can do is to attack. Go all out. Slam hard and aim for the corners. Coax him to hit to your strength by leaving it a little open, and then pounce.

Hard hitters love to hit hard. That is an obvious statement yet few players really understand it. If you "feed him junk" he will tear out his hair in frustration. Hit it slow and high. Use slice and drop shots. Usually slingers can only do one thing: so bring him to net.

Another way to win points, albeit a dangerous way, is to play his strength.

If your opponent has a weak backhand he may favor that side. So shoot over some wide forehands. If he misses his forehands, his confidence might disintegrate.

Some players have systems. They always play the same shots. Be alert to this and don't give them their favorite set ups.

There is a defense for every attack and an attack for every defense: but it takes wits to figure it out. Just give your opponent whatever he likes least. This may mean changing your game to break his. But it's better to give up some of your shots if it means you can take the match.

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Jordan Times
Tel: 67171

EMPLOYMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

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Salary according to qualifications.
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Belgium, bolstered by fan support, sees good World Cup chances



This is one of a series of feature stories on the soccer teams that will play in the World Cup in Spain June 11-July 13. Belgium will play in Group 3 with Argentina, Hungary and El Salvador.

BRUSSELS, Belgium (A.P.) — The Belgian team, which is enjoying unprecedented support at home, will kick off the World Soccer Cup against defending champion Argentina. The coach is confident his team can reach the second round, along with its first day opponent.

Belgium coach Guy Thys, who has a good knowledge of other teams in his group, is expected to use the same seasoned and coherent team that came close to winning the European Championships two years ago.

Officials believe the new fan interest in the team will grow with the World Cup.

"Two years ago, at the European Championships in Italy, we could not find supporters who would make the trip," a team official said. "Nobody gave the Belgian team a chance. We ended in the finals, surprising Europe and, above all, our own fans. The picture is completely different now."

Belgian Soccer Union President Leon Wauters said: "For years the national team lacked support. Now, thanks to its results and enthusiasm, it's the darling of the country. This is giving the team a tremendous boost for the World Cup."

Belgium won its qualifying group, ahead of France and Ireland. Its proudest achievement was to eliminate Holland, the traditional "enemy" and finalist in the last two World Cups.

Thys knows the group he has drawn for Madrid will be difficult.

"Argentina, the defending World Cup winner, is of course the favorite in our group, but don't forget two teams qualify for the next round. Even if we are beaten by Argentina, we are very capable of beating Hungary and El Salvador."

"I think we have a 60 or 70 percent chance of placing second in our group. Hungary has good soccer technicians, but they lack pace and speed. It's no longer the frightening team it was years ago. It's a very good team, but it seems easily playable to me."

"As for El Salvador, it enters the competition lacking training and spirit. But you must never underestimate an opponent. Soccer is not an exact sport. And the

El Salvadorans have nothing to lose and everything to win."

The best players for Belgium: — Jean-Marie Pfaff, 27, goalkeeper of SK Beveren, which has one of the best defences in the Belgian League.

— Eric Gerets, 27, and Walter Meeuws, 30, both backs of Standard Liege, who combine perfectly. Meeuws will be under suspension, though, and will miss the opening game against Argentina.

— Michel Regin, 25, back, a former teammate of Gerets and Meeuws at Standard, now plays for Anderlecht. He was one of the stars of the last European Champs-

hiphop.

— Wilfried Van Moer, 37, half-back of Beveren, one of the senior Belgian players. He has been an inspiration to the team but there is a question about his mobility now.

— Ludo Coeck, an attacking half-back of Anderlecht, combines well with another Anderlecht midfielder, Frank Vercauteren.

— Rene Verheyen, half-back of Lokeren.

— Rene Vander Eycken, a forward who plays for Genoa in Italy and played a leading role in Belgium's success in the World Cup.

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BREZHNEV IN ABSENTIA (will he appear for the Lenin birthday fete?)

U.S. Baseball standings

American League

Eastern Division

W	L	Pct.	GB
4	5	.444	—
4	5	.444	—
3	4	.429	—
3	5	.375	1/2
3	5	.375	1/2
2	6	.250	1/2

Western Division

W	L	Pct.	GB
7	0	1.000	—
6	2	.750	1/2
8	3	.727	1
4	3	.571	2
6	5	.545	3
5	6	.455	4
3	8	.273	7

Saturday's games

Detroit 5, New York 3

Kansas City 12, Cleveland 10

Boston 5, Toronto 4

Texas 5, Milwaukee 3

Chicago 3-10, Baltimore 1-6

California 6, Minnesota 2

Oakland 10, Seattle 3

National League

Eastern Division

St. Louis	3	.727	
New York			

Japan's ambitious tunnel turns out to be a financial cemetery

By Jim Abrams
The Associated Press

FUKUSHIMA, Japan — Far below the stormy Tsugaru Straits in northern Japan, tunnel workers are scraping their way toward a mid-earth rendezvous that will mark an astonishing technological achievement and an unhappy financial miscalculation.

Only 1.6 kilometres of dirt remain to be removed before the two sides meet in the world's longest tunnel, the 54-kilometre Seikan Tunnel linking the main island of Honshu with the northern island of Hokkaido.

The undersea section alone, about 24 kilometres from Honshu's Cape Tappi to this weathered fishing village on Hokkaido's southern shore, is longer than the world's longest overland tunnel, the 20-kilometre Simplon Tunnel between Switzerland and Italy.

The meeting should happen this fall, at a point 100 metres below the sea floor and 240 metres below the surface of the straits. By March 1985, trains are scheduled to begin operating in the tunnel, providing the first bridge to the northern island known as Japan's "frontier."

Travelers to Hokkaido, the largest and most sparsely populated of Japan's 47 prefectures, now must fly or make a four-hour ferry ride from Aomori City to the port city of Hakodate. The ferry is shut down about 80 days a year by wind and snow. The death of 1,100

people in a 1954 ferry accident convinced many of the necessity of the tunnel.

"We know more about making tunnels than anyone in the world," said Junichi Hanada, an engineer who has worked here since exploratory digging began in 1964. "There is much pride in what we have accomplished."

Mr. Hanada and the more than 3,000 other tunnelmen on both sides of the straits have battled heat and humidity, nine major geological faults requiring extensive water sealing work, and four serious flooding accidents.

Persistent hitches

The project, originally planned to be finished in 10 years, will be completed in nearly twice that long because of water leaks and unexpected technical and geological quagmires. Delays and inflation will more than triple construction cost estimates first set at 200 billion yen (\$833 million) at current rates.

The approaching finish of the enterprise now induces only muted interest, even chagrin, from those who once hailed the Seikan Tunnel as Hokkaido's road to economic prosperity.

Originally, the tube was to carry the Shinkansen, Japan's famed 210-kilometre-per-hour "bullet train," reducing rail travel time between Tokyo and Hokkaido's capital of Sapporo from the present 16 hours, 50 minutes — including ferry passage — to five hours, 40 minutes.

But when the oil crisis in the 1970s ended Japan's heady days of high economic growth, the Hokkaido Shinkansen was postponed indefinitely, and the economic viability of the tunnel was imperiled.

Financial cemetery

Japan National Railways (JNR) now expects to lose 80 billion yen (\$333 million) a year — 10 billion in operating costs and 70 billion in payments to the public corporation that built the tunnel — to carry about 8,000 people a day, mostly local residents, under the tunnel and its end.

Mr. Hanada, a local cuttlefish fisherman before joining the project, said he had built a new house and put two children through college on his tunnelman salary. He is determined to stay on the job. "The digging may finish but there will always be a garden to tend and I'll be there."

China's first airplane flaps wings

PEKING (A.P.) — The first passenger airplane ever produced in China, a two-engine, 52-seat propeller plane, made a demonstration flight in Peking Saturday, the official Xinhua news agency reported.

Xinhua said the Yun-7, with 41 people on board, reached a height of 3,000 metres in seven minutes, flew at speeds of up to 410 kilometres an hour and landed 22 minutes later.

The pilot remarked, "The bird flew beautifully. It met all international technical norms," Xinhua reported.

It said China has built nine Yun (transport)-7 planes and is going to start regular production.

On Friday, it said, Vice Premier and Defence Minister Geng Biao said those involved in the project: "I fully support you. China needs to develop its aircraft industry."

Xinhua's report followed reports from China's Canton trade fair this week that a Chinese-made four-engine turboprop airplane for passengers or cargo use is on sale there.

"We expect the population to drop by more than 1,000 by 1985, and when the tunnel work is gone we won't have the tax money to pay for the new public facilities," he said.

The city hopes to begin seaweed and abalone cultivation industries to keep the 500 local men working in the tunnel from drifting off. But

Anti-narcotics squad cocker spaniel wins dog award



Cocker spaniel bitch Amja is a veteran of six years with the German customs' anti-narcotics squad. She and handler Dieter Hesse patrol on a major rail route between Holland and the Federal Republic of Germany. She is unerringly noses out cannabis and heroin from seats and ashtrays, compartment walls and toilets that she has been awarded a prize by the Alsace Dog Club. She accepted with alert dignity befitting a police dog.

—Photo: DaDipa

Valley of the Kings loses

By Jeremy Clift
Reuter

VALLEY OF THE KINGS

Egypt — The queues of Cameramen, tourists waiting to catch a glimpse of Tutankhamun's dazzling gold coffin are shorter this year.

The tomb of the boy King Tutankhamun, discovered intact in 1922 by British Egyptologist Howard Carter, is the most popular attraction in the Valley of the Kings, ancient burial ground of the pharaohs of Egypt.

Mr. Carter's house is still there and close by labourers are repaving the road past Nile-side sugar cane groves up to the craggy, barren valley to bring more dollar-spending tourists to the historic, brightly painted tombs that were hewn directly from the rock.

It is just a short trip by ferry across the Nile from the ancient city of Luxor. Most tourists take the coach, but some of the more hardy make the up-hill journey on mule-back or by bicycle under the blinding desert.

Now, after tourists realised that Mr. Sadat's death did not herald a general upheaval across Egypt, bookings are up again.

But according to Baher Sobhy

Abdu Malek, assistant general manager in Luxor's plush Winter Palace Hotel, bookings are still down on the same time last year by between 10 to 20 per cent.

"November and December were the worst times but things are better for April and May," he said.

"What we want to get across to people abroad is that nothing has

touch to attract tourists

changed. People are staying away, but there's no reason why they should. It's very stable here, as you can see."

Amal, a young guide taking foreign tourists to the Valley of the Kings, said visitors had dropped by at least a quarter.

While in Aswan, 220 kilometres south of Luxor, a 26-year-old carpet seller known as Abdo said there were fewer tourists, but he had put up his prices to compensate.

White-sailed feluccas (Nile fishing boats) are still taking dozens of foreign tourists across the Nile to the Aga Khan's mausoleum on the West Bank overlooking Aswan and downstream from the high dam.

But because tourism is one of Egypt's main foreign currency earners all Egyptians are affected either directly or indirectly by the stumpp of tourism.

Prime Minister Fuad Mohieddin told the People's Assembly (parliament) that Egypt's four main sources of foreign income — Oil, Suez Canal receipts, income from Egyptians working abroad and tourist revenue — were all down in financial year 1981/82.

Tourism Minister Adel Taher had hoped that tourism receipts would top \$1 billion this year. But now foreign banking sources believe it will only reach around \$700 million.

Tourism ministry officials say that the number of tourists visiting Egypt in 1981 increased to 1.37 million, compared with 1.25 million the year before. But the number from the United States and Western Europe, the biggest spending category, went up from 663,816 to 664,749.

Egypt, recognising the big revenue-earning potential of the tourist industry, is planning to expand the scope of its attractions, particularly along the Red Sea and Mediterranean coast.

Mr. Mohieddin told a recent conference on tourism in Cairo that this should help reduce the seasonal nature of tourism in Egypt.

"It's fabulous," said one bronzed tourist just back from Hurghada, the Red Sea resort made famous during a honeymoon visit by Britain's Prince Charles and Lady Diana. "Miles of beaches with nobody on them. But I can't see how it will last."

JUMBLE

THAT SCRABBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



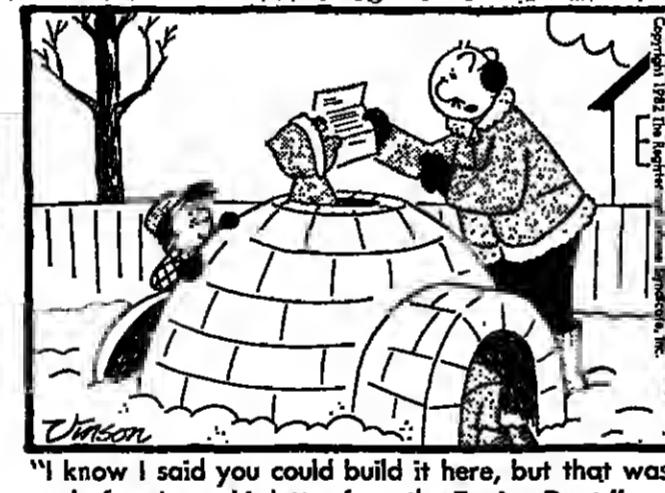
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: THE

Yesterday's Jumbles: COUGH GIANT INLAND MINGLE
Answer: This is the key to all good driving—IGNITION

THE BETTER HALF

By Vinson



FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, APR. 20, 1982

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The morning can bring some problems you do not need, but the afternoon finds you able to overcome obstacles easily. Listen closely to suggestions made by close ties.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Avoid calling on a difficult person early in the day. Be alert to carelessness on the part of others. Use good judgement.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) A financial matter needs more study before making a definite decision. Make this a most worthwhile day.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Show others that you have poise if some unusual situation comes up today. Be sure not to lose your temper with anyone.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) A private matter could be upsetting early in the day, but later everything works out to your advantage.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Get rid of whatever is not practical in the morning and later you can be happy with your friends. Relax at home tonight.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 21) You can take care of an important home matter early in the day and later expand where your career is concerned.

LIBRA (Sept. 22 to Oct. 21) Avoid changing present arrangements at work until you have first studied it well. Plan how to gain your finest aims.

SCORPIO (Oct. 22 to Nov. 21) Find a much better way of carrying through with agreements you have made with others. Strive to be more successful.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Steer clear of an irate associate in the morning and later all will straighten out. Safeguard your reputation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Use extreme care in handling all work ahead of you and avoid possible trouble. Plan how to gain your finest aims.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Doing something special for persons you really like brings excellent results at this time. Express happiness.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Avoid arguments at home early in the day and later there will be real harmony. Make long-range plans for the future.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY . . . he or she will be one of those capable young persons who can get at the core of a situation and then know how best to handle it. Be sure to give chores early in life that could pave the way to success later. Give fine spiritual training.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword

By Albert L. Misenko

ACROSS	29	Personality	51	To be: Fr.	22	Ties the knot
1	Wasp weapon	quality	52	Homage	25	Forearm
8	Profound	33	Soon	53	Embarrasses	bone
10	Cudgels	34	Greet	54	Felines	butcher
14	Abalone	36	Swiss river	55	Harem room	views
15	Goliath	37	Khal or	56	Scenic	27
16	Adored	38	Eris	57	— boom	Colorful
	object	39	Drinking	62	— boom	parrot
		40	place	64	Asian land	Pointless
		41	Ballroom	65	Cheas or	Mild cigar
		42	dance	66	checkers	30
		43	Collection	67	Local dialect	City in Texas
		44	of sayings	68	Fishing devices	31
		45	Oak fruits	69	Watches	32
		46	Raised platform	70	Spring on the hind legs	33
		47	Prosperous	71	Worship	34
		48	platform	72	Jewish month	41
		49	place	73	Waist bouquet	44
		50	honor	74	Catch sight	45
		51	of nobody	75	Sour fruit	46
		52	In particular	76	Kremlin's land	47
		53	By birth	77	Medical patients	48
		54	Lubricata	78	Long-eared mammal	49
		55	Fools	79	55 Med. subj.	50
		56	Do wrong	80	Arrived	51
		57	Sailor's garment	81	Fashion name	52
		58	garment	82	Summit	53
		59	City in Mississippi	83	Merry month	54
		60	Fruit drinks	84	month	55
		61	Carry	85	Singular	56
		62	Coaster	86		
		63	Red wine	87		

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

</tbl_r

WORLD

Brandt backs Schmidt's decision on NATO arms

MUNICH, West Germany (R) — Former chancellor Willy Brandt urged West Germany's ruling Social Democrats (SPD) at the start of their national congress Monday to renew support for NATO's controversial strategy on missile deployment and arms talks.

Mr. Brandt, SPD chairman since 1964, admitted in a keynote address that the party, which is split on the arms issue, faced greater difficulties than at any time since it first helped form a Bonn government more than 15 years ago.

He appealed to the 440 delegates to turn the five-day congress at Munich's Olympic hall into a "Social Democratic renewal" to revive the SPD's battered political fortunes.

Mr. Brandt flatly rejected speculation about a possible breakdown of Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's left-liberal coalition which he said the SPD wanted to see strengthened.

"We Social Democrats will keep to our word: 'We stand by the Social Democratic chancellor and the coalition with the Free Democrats (FDP)," he declared.

Schmidt's fortunes

Mr. Schmidt, who is to speak Tuesday, has staked his career on the 1979 NATO decision to deploy U.S. Cruise and Pershing-2 missiles in West Europe from late next year unless Washington and Moscow can agree before then on arms curbs.

His stance is challenged by a vociferous anti-nuclear peace movement, which rallied 50,000 protesters in Munich on the eve of the conference, and by a sizeable minority within the SPD.

Ex-chancellor Brandt told the conference he shared many of the peace movement's goals but at the same time feared "the illusions which arise from being too far from reality."

Old hand takes over Chinese Muslim areas

PEKING (R) — Disputes between ethnic Chinese and Muslim minorities must be resolved before stability can be consolidated in the vast Xinjiang region of Chinese Central Asia, according to its new Communist Party chief.

Gen. Wang Enmao, re-appointed to head the so-called autonomous region by Vice-Chairman Deng Xiaoping late last year, was quoted by *The People's Daily* yesterday as saying that the key to political stability was unity between different ethnic groups.

The official newspaper said the situation had improved since the return to power of Gen. Wang, who ruled Xinjiang from 1954 until he was purged in the Maoist Cultural Revolution of the mid-1960s.

But analysts said the wording of the article confirmed that there were still serious strains and possibly sporadic conflicts between the mainly atheist "Han" Chinese and Muslim groups such as Uyghurs and Kazakhs.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦KQJ5 ♦AQ ♦K10954 ♦62
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♦ 2 ♦
What do you bid now?

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♦K76 ♦KQJ105 ♦AK83 ♦7
Partner opens the bidding with one club. What do you respond?

Q.3—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦KJ764 ♦84 ♦K9 ♦KQ82
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
Pass Pass 1 ♦ 1 ♦
What action do you take?

The twin-track NATO decision, likely to be one of the main sources of dispute at the congress, put pressure on the United States and the Soviet Union to reach agreement at their Geneva talks on curbing medium-range missiles in Europe, he said.

One or two delegates booted his remarks on missile policy.

Mr. Brandt said the SPD wanted close and friendly relations with the U.S. and remained committed to the Western alliance.

But NATO would be torn apart if it ever abandoned the concept that defence went hand-in-hand with military security, he said.

Anti-Americanism

In a sideswipe at U.S. critics: who detect neutrality or anti-American tendencies in the SPD, he listed several American politicians who recently suggested that NATO and the Soviet Union should agree to renounce the first use of nuclear arms.

"Is (former defence secretary) Robert McNamara, for instance, anti-American? or (ex-ambassador) George Kennan, (former senator) William Fulbright, and (former envoy) George Ball?" Mr. Brandt asked.

Mr. Brandt also hailed the emergence of a church-backed peace movement in East Germany and criticised the Communist authorities for banning its "swords to ploughshares" emblem.

Mr. Brandt said the Bonn coalition, which almost collapsed last year amid disputes over the budget and unemployment, had at times presented "a sorry picture" since it was re-elected 16 months ago.

His comments appeared to be borne out by a public opinion poll, published by the magazine *Der Spiegel* Monday, which showed that 53 per cent of West Germans want the FDP to form a new coalition with the opposition Christian Social Union.

Mr. Brandt also criticised the demonstrators unfurled a three-metre (10-foot) blue-lettered banner bearing the words "bread, life and disarmament" as tourists gathered to watch the changing of the guard outside the mausoleum of the founder of the Soviet state, Vladimir Lenin.

No surprise

Security police, who had gathered in anticipation of the protest, quickly beat down the banner and bundled the protesters into a waiting police car. The action lasted about two minutes and provoked little interest among the hundreds of bystanders.

The press statement said leaflets handed out by the demonstrators called on the Soviet government to donate 0.70 per cent of its gross national product to feeding developing countries.

The radical parties are small left-wing groups, which are campaigning in several West European countries for an increase in industrialised countries' support for the Third World.

The Italian, Belgian and French embassies said they had heard reports of the arrests but had not yet been contacted by the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

Many of Xinjiang's minorities have relatives across the border in the Soviet Union and the frontier is not marked in remote areas. Gen. Wang's party committee urged that minority leaders should be given more real work to do but called on them to handle disputes fairly and not to be swayed by their emotions, the paper said.

It added the party boss had set a good example by personally giving public apologies to minority leaders wronged by the government in the past.

No big surprises among 1982 Pulitzer prizes

By Michael J. Bandler

NEW YORK — A novel embracing the contemporary small-town American experience and the mid-life crisis, a drama encompassing murder and racism in a *World War II* U.S. Army camp setting, the collected verse of a poet who committed suicide nearly two decades ago and the latest musical creation of a gifted, prolific octogenarian are among the works honoured with 1982 Pulitzer prizes.

The eclectic collection of prize winners spans several generations — from Sylvia Plath, the poet who killed herself in 1963 at the age of 30, to Roger Sessions, 85, one of the elder statesmen of American music, whose "Concerto for Orchestra" — unveiled in 1981 by the Boston Symphony — brought him his second Pulitzer.

There is something special about the current roster of winners, announced April 12 in New York City by Michael Sovern, president of Columbia University, on the recommendations of the Pulitzer Prize board. A number of the honours have been long overdue.

Fiction prize

Nowhere has this more so than in the category of fiction. The prize went to John Updike, 50, a preeminent American novelist, for *Rabbit is Rich*, a warm, wistful

Sunny Sunday on HMS Hermes



Naval ratings and Royal Marines relax on the flight deck of the Royal Navy aircraft carrier HMS Hermes Easter Sunday, as she sailed towards the Falkland Islands, as part of the British Naval task force. (A.P. Wirephoto)

2 Australian ministers resign

CANBERRA (R) — Australia's health and customs ministers resigned Monday night over the health minister's failure to declare a miniature T.V. radio-cassette to customs last October.

After five hours of discussions with senior ministers, Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser announced he had accepted the resignations of health minister Michael MacKellar, 43, and John Moore, 45.

Salisbury renamed Harare

HARARE, Zimbabwe (R) — The name of Zimbabwe's capital has been changed officially from Salisbury to Harare, a government spokesman said today.

In the regional language of Shona the name means a man who never sleeps.

The Apartheid was in line with the black majority government's policy of erasing certain relics of the white-dominated colonial past of the former Rhodesia. More place names would be altered in due course, the spokesman said.

who as business and consumer affairs minister was responsible for customs.

The affair has caused a new, potentially destructive crisis for Mr. Fraser, 51, who is already beset by economic problems including high interest rates, inflation, and unemployment, which have caused the popularity of his government to plummet.

Earlier this month Mr. Fraser

beat off a dangerous challenge to his leadership from former foreign minister Andrew Peacock. Some political analysts Monday night were predicting that the new crisis could weaken Mr. Fraser's position and cause a further challenge.

Mr. MacKellar said at the weekend that he failed to declare the \$250 (260 U.S.) portable colour T.V. radio-cassette when he brought it into Sydney from Hong Kong. Mr. Moore admitted he told of the matter by a senior member of his ministry and said he decided not to pursue it after reprimanding Mr. MacKellar by telephone.

Mr. Fraser named two ministers to act in the vacant portfolios but is not expected to reshuffle his government until the end of the current session of parliament in May.

The prime minister said Aboriginal Affairs Minister Peter Baume would be sworn in Tuesday as minister for health. Neil Brown, the employment and youth affairs minister, would also handle business and consumer affairs.

Reagan deplores Al Aqsa attack

EDITOR'S NOTE: Following is the text of a White House statement issued April 16, 1982 following President Ronald Reagan's meeting with six Islamic ambassadors.

The president today met with six ambassadors delegated by the Islamic countries represented in Washington. On this occasion, he expressed his deep personal sorrow and that of all Americans over last Sunday's violence at the hands of a deranged individual in an area sacred to three of the world's great religions.

The president expressed his sympathy with the concern of the Islamic world over the disruption of the tranquility of one of its most holy shrines. This concern is shared by the members of all faiths.

He reiterated his conviction that the peace of the holy places of Jerusalem must be maintained, and confirmed the dedication of the United States to

encouraging the conditions necessary for the well-being of all those who draw their spiritual inspiration from that city.

The president called upon all the governments and peoples of the Middle East to work to decrease tensions in the area and prevent further acts of violence and loss of life.

The six ambassadors were:

Ambassador Omer Salih Eissa, Sudanese ambassador to the United States. Ambassador Ali Benjelloun, Moroccan ambassador to the United States. Ambassador Sheikh Faisal Albeglan, Saudi Arabian ambassador to the United States. Ambassador Ajaz Azim, Pakistani ambassador to the United States. Ambassador Azzraai Zain, Malaysian ambassador to the United States. Ambassador Andre Wright, Niger ambassador to the United States.

16 SWAPO guerrillas killed so far

WINDHOEK, Namibia (South West Africa (R) — South African forces killed six black nationalist guerrillas in northern Namibia over the weekend, a military communiqué said Monday.

Security force headquarters here also reported that two black children aged seven and 11 died instantly when they detonated a mine laid by guerrillas north of Tsumeb.

The guerrilla casualties bring SWAPO (South West Africa People's Organisation) losses to 16 since it began an incursion into the northern white farming area at the end of the rainy season last week. Security force losses were given as eight dead.

The communiqué said an original SWAPO force of about 100 infiltrators, armed with modern weapons, had now split up into small groups of about five and some of these were heading back to their bases in neighbouring Angola.

Security forces were continuing follow-up operations, the communiqué said.

Police detain 1240 in Bombay

BOMBAY (R) — Police detained 1,240 people in Bombay Monday as a precautionary measure during a 24-hour strike in India's western Maharashtra State, police officials said.

The strike was called by militant trade union leader Dr. Datta Samant and a number of left-wing trade unions in support of 250,000 Bombay textile workers who have been on strike for three months demanding big wage increases.

Crash repairs temporarily stop Chinese tower from leaning

PEKING (R) — Emergency repairs at China's 1,000-year-old *White Pagoda* of Pisac have been completed by a team of Chinese experts.

The New China News Agency (NCNA) said engineers had stopped the pagoda's tilting since last year and were now pouring tonnes of concrete into 44 pits around its base.

The eight-sided, seven-storey brick structure is 47.5 metres (156 feet) high and 2.2 metres (7.5 feet) out of true at the top.

It has been tilting since at least the end of the Ming Dynasty in the 17th century when the top section was rebuilt in an abortive effort to shift its centre of gravity.

The elder brother of Italy's leaning tower, Tiger Hill Pagoda was built around 960 A.D. Until the repairs it tilted a further 1.7 millimetres (0.07 inches) each year as it sank into moist clay soil.

The head of the repair office, Wang Deying, said when the new foundations were completed the pagoda would stand in a sort of flower pot of reinforced concrete.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Saudis discuss security with West Germans

JEDDAH (R) — West German Interior Minister Gerhard Baum discussed security cooperation with Prince Nayef ibn Abdul Aziz in Riyadh Monday, delegation officials said. Mr. Baum, who arrived in Saudi Arabia last night, was accompanied by State Secretary Siegfried Froehlich, the interior ministry official responsible for internal security in West Germany, and by security experts. The officials gave no details of the talks but said Mr. Baum, who is expected to return to Bonn Tuesday, was due to visit unidentified security bases. Security sources said Bonn said Sunday that a Saudi Arabian force formed for special duties underwent a long period of training last year with West Germany's crack GSG-9, a commando unit of the paramilitary border police.

Lebanese army convoy ambushed

BEIRUT (R) — Dissident left-wing soldiers ambushed a Lebanese Army convoy in the Akkar area north Lebanon Monday, state-run Beirut Radio said. But in the ensuing skirmish three dissident members of the Lebanese Army (LAA), were arrested and another was wounded, it said. The LAA, led by former army Lt. Ahmed Al Khatib, broke from the Lebanese Army during the 1975-76 civil war.

Zia sends gifts to Evren

ANKARA (R) — Five cows, two bulls and a thoroughbred horse have arrived as a gift to Turkey's head of state General Kenan Evren from Pakistani President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq. The semi-official Anatolian News Agency reported. The report said President Zia was known for giving such gifts to people he respected. The military leaders have visited each other's countries in recent months.

Saudi forces to be beefed up

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia's National Guard, an internal defence force responsible for guarding cities and vital oilfields, is to be strengthened by two divisions, the official Saudi Press Agency reported Monday. The new artillery and supply and logistics divisions would become operational during one-day joint exercises with the air force in the desert outside the capital, Riyadh, which cod on Wednesday, it said. Saudi Arabia has been spending billions of dollars building up and modernising its armed forces since tensions in the area increased following the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the Islamic revolution in Iran. \$2.5 billion — 20 per cent of its total budget — was allocated to defence and security in the current fiscal year ending next month.

Iranian diplomat seeks political asylum in Rome

ROME (R) — The Iranian chargé d'affaires in Italy said Monday he had resigned and was seeking political asylum, accusing Iran's revolutionary government of carrying out more than 10,000 summary executions since it came to power. Mohammad Hosseini Naghdi, in charge of the Iranian embassy in Italy since his predecessor also resigned last August, cited lack of freedom, the war against Iraq and economic problems among reasons for quitting. He said in statement the "reactionary regime" of spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini had conducted more than 10,000 summary executions and imprisoned 30,000 political opponents. Mr. Naghdi, 31, said the Tehran government had sent missions abroad to identify only Iranian nationals who were outspoken in opposition but also those who were reluctant to promote the cause of "Islamic fundamentalism." Political observers said the office of Hojatoleslam Seyyed Hadi Khosroshahi, Iranian envoy to the Holy See, had taken over some of the ambassadorial and consular functions usually performed by embassy staff as resident in Italy.

Drama

One of the more controversial categories in the Pulitzer list is drama. Many years, no prize is awarded, for lack of a suitable candidate or because of lack of unity among the judges. No such problem arose this year: It was generally agreed, by America's drama critics and the Pulitzer judges alike, that Charles Fuller's *A Soldier's Play* was the most impressive piece of drama to emerge.

The play by the 43-year-old dramatist begins with the murder, in the shadows, of a middle-aged black U.S. army officer. A subsequent inquiry pits another black officer, assigned to conduct the investigation, against a host of likely suspects. In the process of the investigation, a vast array of social and historical issues and dilemmas come into play.

A Soldier's Play was written in Nov. 1981, by the Negro Ensemble Company in New York City, where it continues to run at present.

Fuller is the second black playwright to be awarded the prize (the first was Charles Gordone, who won it in 1970 for *No Place to Be Somebody*). Interviewed after the announcement, he said that "his plays are about people, not black-white confrontations... I'm concerned about history, and about human beings."

— USICA feature